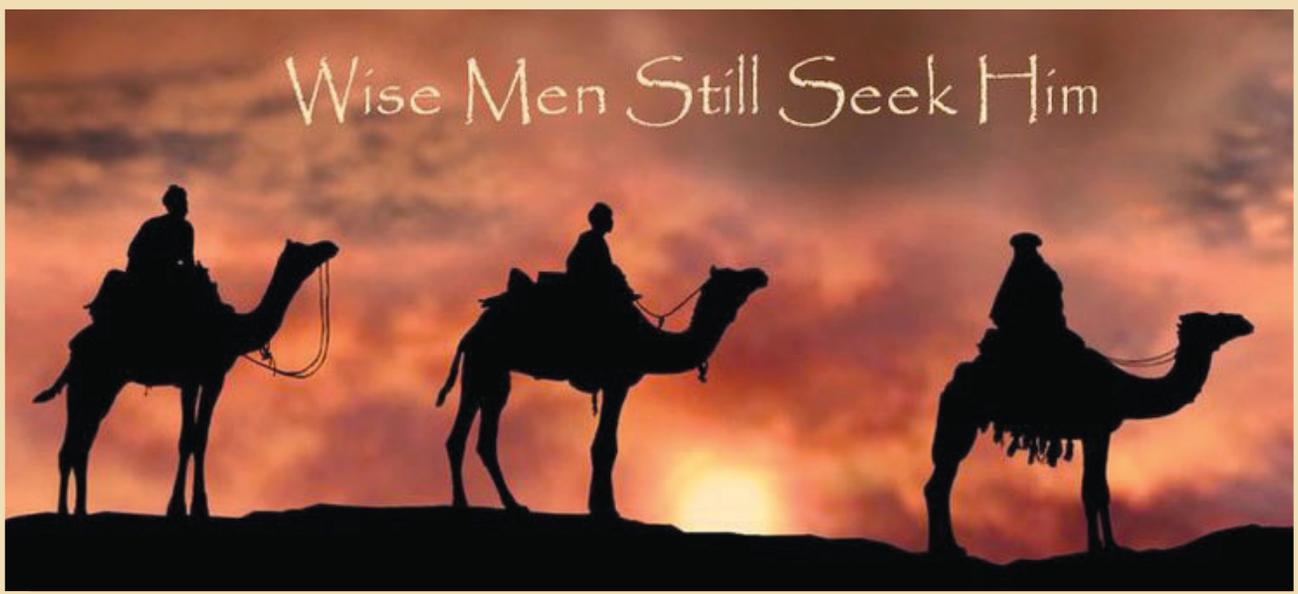


Wise Men Still Seek Him



The Epiphany of the Lord

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts;
the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute.
All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him.

ST. ROSALIE
CATHOLIC CHURCH
January 8, 2023

The Pastor Jots It Down! _____

Happy Epiphany!

This feast which calls to mind the Magi offering gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the newborn King is but one of the three manifestations of Jesus to the world. The other two being the Baptism of Jesus and the miracle of the Wedding Feast at Cana.

At the time of Jesus birth, gold was used as something valuable, frankincense as perfume and myrrh as anointing oil. In their spiritual meaning gold is a symbol of kingship on earth, frankincense is a symbol of divinity, and myrrh (an embalming oil) is a symbol of death. Thus, the gifts of the Three Kings reflect the life of Christ the King, the Son God, who would die for us on the cross in the ultimate act of kingship giving His life for His people. He shed the last drop of His blood so that our sins could be forgiven and someday we could be with him in heaven.

Our challenge today on this feast is to live our baptismal commitment to manifest Christ to world by the words and deeds of our lives and by our invitation to others to grow in spiritual life. We, each one of us, are called to be apostles in our day and to live lives of missionary discipleship.

Today, we can ask ourselves: How serious are we about our faith?

How do we witness or manifest our faith in our homes, neighborhoods, places of work and places of study??

When was the last time we invited a family member, friend, neighbor, co-worker, or fellow student to engage with us in an activity that would help us both to grow in holiness?

How often do we attend Mass? How often could we attend Mass if we really wanted? How do we prepare for Mass? Alone or with our spouse and family? Or do we prepare at all before going to Mass?

Now is the time to prepare our plan of life for the New Year of 2023...write down on paper how you plan to grow spiritually this year. Include your action steps and review them on the monthly anniversary of your birth. Remember holiness is not something that just happens. It is something that we must work toward day in and day out.

As we begin this New Year may it be for us a year of Grace where we not only grow in our holiness and faith life but also become true missionary disciples wherever we find ourselves in daily life.

God bless you!

F. Marshall



A Voice From the Pew

With all the recent tragic events in our community, this scripture has come to mind, and I feel the need to share it.

First, the untimely passing of Father Jimmy Jeanfreau, beloved pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, left an empty place in our lives. Fr. Jimmy will not easily be replaced. He was a great friend to many and a fantastic spiritual leader for the Parish and the Westbank.

If that wasn't enough, the tornados that devastated homes and businesses have left us wondering where God is in all of this. In my humble opinion, He's right in front of us hidden in the unrecognizable beauty. With Fr. Jimmy, God is not in the tragedy of his lost life, but the way that he lived the life he was given. The tornados remind us of the wonderous power of God's creation. A power so great that our human constructs pale in comparison to withstand the incredible force. Both events thrust us into a pool of humility as if we were diving into ice cold water ... they take our breath away.

It is in that moment that I'm reminded of this scripture, the fragility of our time, and God's Grace. God allows these tragedies to happen in order to highlight for us the urgency of each of our missions. Our time here is short, so we must love and share the gifts of Grace that He has given us. We are not meant to hide them or use them to make monuments to ourselves. We are not meant to fall in love with our material possessions, because they are all temporary. God allows these great tragedies to happen in order to train us to both look within and to look up. He has hidden in each of us the unrecognizable beauty of His Grace and the power that He has given each of us to change the world in our own special way.

This scripture screams to me HOPE. The same hope that Jesus was trying to inspire in His disciples in the pep talk that He was giving in John 16. That's the same hope that led Him to perform the greatest act of love the world has ever known by enduring the worst that humanity could throw at Him, all for the hope that each one of us would love Him back. That's a hope so legendary that the power of a tornado pales in comparison.

We live in this Facebook, Instagram, Tic-Tok world where everything is about materiality, personality, and possessions. We miss the world for its unrecognizable beauty. . . God hidden right in front of our eyes. We only see small instances of it in the wake of great tragedies. My prayer for us going forward is that we don't let the way Fr. Jimmy lived his life be in vain, and we don't let the shock of the tornados keep us from continuing to help and share without being asked. I found the saying: Ex Tenebris Bona Venia ("Out of Darkness Good Will Come") I'm going to try my hardest, and I can't wait to see what we can all accomplish together!

Love yall! John Dalton

Epiphany

In order to celebrate this feast of Manifestation more fully, we need to know more about the theology and significance of this great feast of Epiphany. Elsa Chaney explains in layman's terms about this feast. Some of the references to the liturgy and divine office refer to pre-Vatican II rites, but all the insights are still applicable.

The feast of manifestation, or Epiphany, is traditionally celebrated the 12th day after Christmas, January 6th. In the dioceses of the United States this feast has been moved to the Sunday between January 2 and January 8.

For many years in the English-speaking world the feast of Epiphany has been overshadowed by that of Christmas. But unless we realize the significance of this great day, we see only one side of the mystery of the Incarnation. Now after contemplating the staggering fact that God has become a human child, we turn to look at this mystery from the opposite angle and realize that this seemingly helpless Child is, in fact, the omnipotent God, the King and Ruler of the universe. The feast of Christ's divinity completes the feast of His humanity. It fulfills all our Advent longing for the King "who is come with great power and majesty." We see that whereas Christmas is the family feast of Christianity, Epiphany is the great "world feast of the Catholic Church."

Epiphany is a complex feast. Originating in the Eastern Church and formed by the mentality of a people whose thought processes differ sharply from our own, the Epiphany is like a rich Oriental tapestry in which the various themes are woven and interwoven — now to be seen in their historical setting, again to be viewed from a different vantage point in their deep mystical significance. In this brief introduction four of the main ideas of the Epiphany will be outlined.

Divine manifestation: The Epiphany takes its name from the Greek epiphania, which denotes the visit of a god to earth. The first idea of the feast is the manifestation of Christ as the Son of God. "Begotten before the daystar and before all ages, the Lord our Savior is this day made manifest to the world." The feast unites three events in the life of Christ when His divinity, as it were, shines through His humanity: the adoration of the Magi; the baptism of Christ in the Jordan; and the first miracle at the wedding feast of Cana. Moreover, at Epiphany the Church looks forward to the majestic coming of Christ on the "youngest day" when His manifestation as God will be complete. The Gospels of the baptism and the marriage at Cana are read on the Octave Day and the Second Sunday after Epiphany, and later Sunday masses in the Epiphany season continue to show the divine power of our Lord in some of His most striking miracles.

Royal kingship: A second important idea in Epiphany is the extension of Christ's kingship to the whole world. The revelation of Christ to the three kings at Bethlehem is a symbol of His revelation to the whole of the Gentile world. Epiphany presents to us the calling of not merely a chosen few, but all nations to Christianity.

Your Light is Come: Closely linked to both these themes of divine manifestation and world kingship is a third idea running through the Epiphany feast: that of light. During Advent, the world was in darkness, and we prayed and waited in the spirit of the Jewish nation which lived in expectation of the Coming Light during thousands of years. At Christmas the Light shone forth, but dimly, seen only by a few around the crib: Mary and Joseph and the shepherds. But at Epiphany the Light bursts

forth to all nations and the prophecy is fulfilled: "The Gentiles shall walk in Thy light, and kings in the brightness of Thy rising." The mysterious star of Epiphany, "flashing like a flame," is still another facet of the light-motif, a symbol capable of being interpreted in a dozen different ways.

How much food for thought and reflection is contained in just these three ideas, and what a significance they have for our own time! Epiphany lifts our eyes from the family celebrations and demands that we should include in our vision "all the ends of the earth." It demands that, like the three wise men, we should have the courage to follow the light of the star we have seen, however hazardous the journey; that the light of our faith, like that of the wise men, should be so strong that we are able to see and recognize our Lord and Ruler in however unexpected a way He may present Himself to us; and that having recognized Him, we should bow down and adore Him, offering Him our total loyalty.

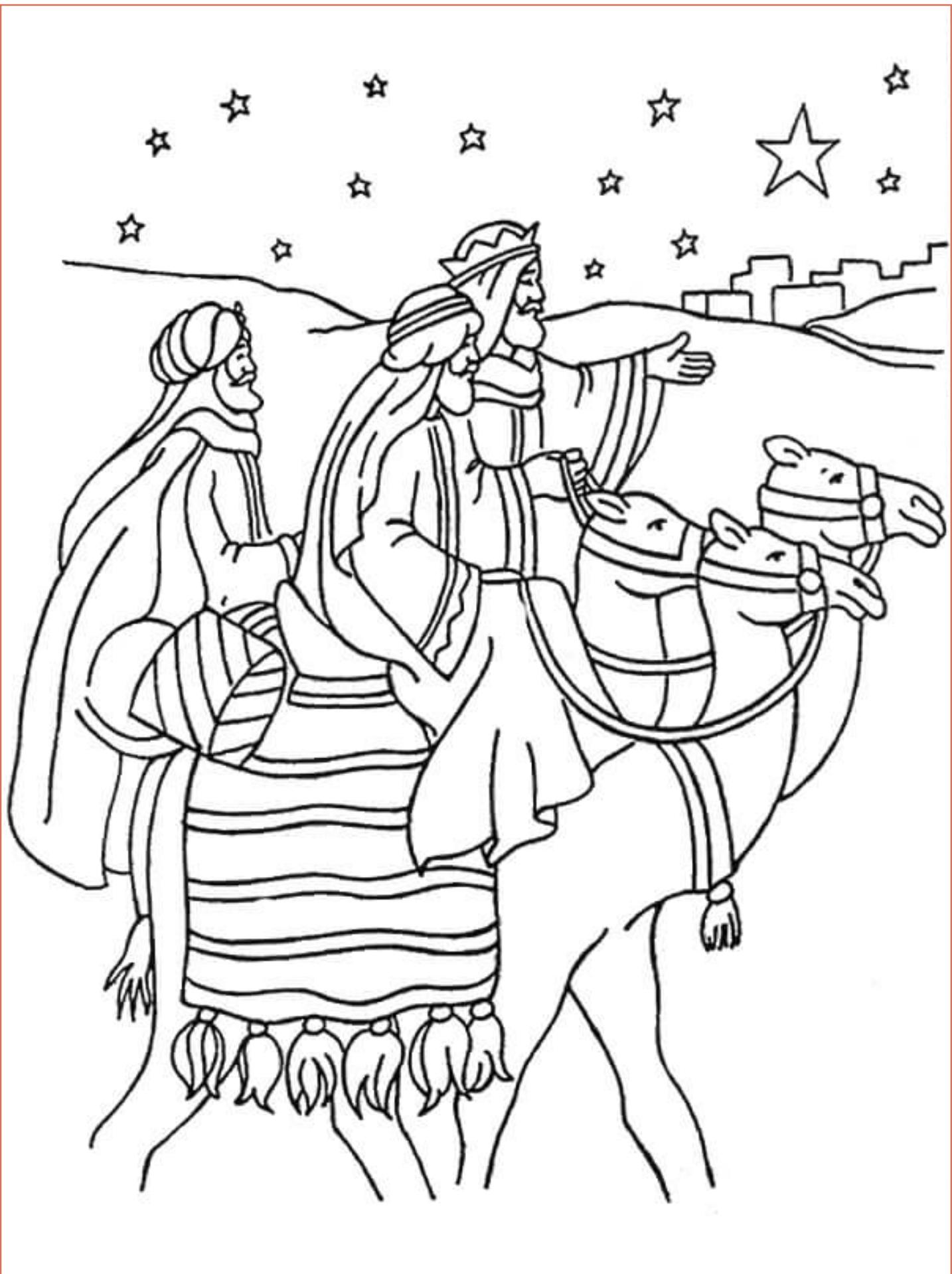
Moreover, Epiphany demands that like these kings we should return to our own countries a different way, carrying to all those we meet the light of Christ. "For behold, darkness shall cover the earth," says the Epistle of the Epiphany Mass, "and a mist covers the people: but the Lord shall arise upon Thee, and His glory shall be seen upon Thee. And the Gentiles shall walk in Thy light. . ." These words may be applied to us, upon whom the light of Christ has indeed risen, and who have the responsibility to radiate that light in the darkness of our own world. It is clear how much the feast of Epiphany must mean to all who are engaged in the apostolate and are striving to extend the kingdom of Christ.

The royal nuptials: Besides the important ideas outlined above, there is still another great theme threaded through the Epiphany feast—the theme of the royal nuptials, the wedding of Christ with humanity. It is an idea on a completely different level from the historical events which the Epiphany celebrates, yet inextricably bound up with them; for example, the historical marriage feast of Cana is used by the Church to suggest the setting for Christ's nuptials with the Church; the wise men represent not only the three Persian Magi adoring the Babe 2000 years ago at Bethlehem, but also the Gentile world hurrying to the wedding feast at the end of time when mankind's nuptials with the divine Bridegroom will be celebrated; the gold, frankincense and myrrh are not only tokens for the little Baby King in the stable, but royal wedding gifts for the mystical marriage feast of heaven.

The Epiphany antiphon for the hour of Lauds brings out strikingly this theme of the divine marriage of Christ with humanity, and at the same time shows the deep mystical significance behind the historical events surrounding the feast. Perhaps nowhere more clearly than in this antiphon do we see that on Epiphany we do not commemorate a set of historical facts as much as we celebrate a great mystery: "This day the Church is joined to her heavenly Spouse, for Christ has cleansed her crimes in the Jordan. With gifts the Magi hasten to the royal nuptials, and the guests are gladdened with wine made from water."

Activity Source: *Twelve Days of Christmas, The* by Elsa Chaney, The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN, 1955

From: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=442>



Mass Intentions

Announcements

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

8:00am All Parishioners
4:00pm Tibby & Iris Thibodaux
Rodney Wilcox
Malcolm & Timmy LeBlanc
Wayne Oubre
Dwayne Guidry
Hunter & Guastella Family
Charles & Carmen Austin
Fr. Jon Parks, SDB
Donald Comeaux
Ryan Welch
Estanislao & Maria Ana Gongora
Juan B. & Marcela Rodriguez
Hilton Lirette
Richard Bruce
Alexis & Beverly Vicari
Kenny Riley

*“Do good
while you still have time.”*
– Don Bosco

St. Rosalie Catholic Church

600 Second Avenue – Harvey, LA
504-340-1962

email: office@strosalieparish.com

Fr. Mark Hyde, SDB, *Pastor*

Fr. George Hanna, SDB

Fr. Wilgintz Polynice, SDB
Parochial Vicars

Kevin Steel, *Deacon*

MASS SCHEDULES:

ST. ROSALIE

Saturday Vigil – 4:00 pm

Sunday – 7:30 and 10:30 am

Weekdays – 7:00 am

Saturday – 8:00 am

Confessions: Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 pm

ST. JOHN BOSCO

Saturday Vigil – 5:30 pm

Sunday – 9:00 am and 12:00 pm

Youth & Young Adult Mass

Sunday – 8:00 pm

Weekdays – 7:00 am

Saturday – 8:00 am

Confessions: Saturday 4:30 - 5:15 pm

Both Churches:

Adoration & Confessions

Wednesday 7:00 - 8:00 pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

7:30am Barbara Murphy
10:30am Yves 'Vessie' Bourgeois
Byron S. LeJeune
LeJeune, Rodrigue, Angelle
& Orgeron Families
Kevin Fitzhenry
Kathleen LaGrange
Nelson Cantrelle, Jr.
Madeleine Behette
Josephine & Bert LeBlanc, Sr.
Claude & Verine Zeringue
Ethel & Henry Kraus
Agnes & Sidney Rotolo
Carlos Savona
Doris & Walter Treadaway
Rodney Isemann
T-Van Falgout
Wilton Richoux
Sandra Guidry
A. J. Morvant
Doris Taravella
All Souls in Purgatory

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

7:00am Diane Carney

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

7:00am Armbruster & Brown Families
Gary Dufour

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

7:00am Steve & Tommy Blanchard
Claude & Verine Zeringue

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

7:00am Virginia Ryan

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

7:00am Marilyn & Charles 'Tee' Blanchard

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

8:00am Joey Parks
4:00pm Vincent Baldassaro, Jr.

Jerry Melancon, Sr.

Donald Comeaux

Ryan Welch

Antonio D'Amico

John Taravella, Sr.

Hilton Lirette

Carl Reese, Jr.

Charles & Carmen Austin

Hilton G. Landry

Hilton G. Landry, Jr.

Geraldine Landry

*“Walk with your feet on
earth and your heart in heaven.”*

St. John Bosco

SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

The Sanctuary Committee for the weekend of January 14 is Team 3, which consists of Judy Baldassaro, Melissa Dugas, Crissy Orgeron and Marsha Danos.



SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Silver Wedding Anniversary Celebration will be held on Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Church in New Orleans. The celebration is open to couples married between 1993 - 1998. To register, please contact your parish office before Tues., Jan. 17, 2023.

In Our Parish

SANCTUARY LAMP

*will burn in memory of
Byron S. LeJeune*

BLESSED MOTHER'S LAMP

*will burn in memory of
Hunter & Guastella Family*

SACRED HEART'S LAMP

*will burn in memory of
Jackie Morvant Bush*

ST. ROSALIE'S LAMP

*will burn in memory of
Doris & Walter Treadaway*

ALTAR WINE

*is given in memory of
Jackie Morvant Bush*

MASS FOR HEALING:

Shannon Morvant Olivero
Jackie Morvant Bush, Milton Danos
O.J. Orgeron, Rosalie Oubre
Kim Riley, Julie Kirkland
Linda LeJeune, Gary Guidry
Jan Carnesi, Ryan DeLaCerde
Hunter & Guastella family & friends

MASS FOR THE LIVING:

Patrick Lofton, Anne, William,
Thomas and Marguerite Hart

SPECIAL MASSES:

For conversion of sinners.
Prayer for Peace in Ukraine